

Welcome, HUPO

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With this issue, we initiate a new phase of the association of MCP with the Human Proteome Organisation (HUPO), a relationship that extends back to the inception of both ventures. Since the now historic first congress in Versailles in November 2002, MCP has been privileged to publish the abstracts/program of every HUPO congress. This was an important decision for a young journal but one that was in keeping with the principles enunciated at the time the journal was founded, to wit, that it meant to strive not only to record the progress of proteomics, as it evolved as a science, but also to support the development of this relatively new field through appropriate ancillary activities. In addition to HUPO, its development of the standards for reporting protein identification data, established by an international workshop in Paris, and its support for translational research, particularly manifested in special issues of the journal devoted to clinical proteomics, are two other examples.

It is both significant and rewarding that MCP and HUPO have already grown into established entities that are making important contributions to the advancement of proteomics science. As outlined below in the editorial from the HUPO leadership, they have many important programs and initiatives on-going and we are pleased that, as a designated official journal of HUPO, we will be one outlet for disseminating the news of these activities. The pages devoted to HUPO news will be separated and clearly marked so that they can be easily identified and browsed. We feel that this is a real addition to MCP and are pleased to be able to offer it to our readership. We encourage all individuals interested in proteomics to regularly peruse this section because it will undoubtedly contain important and interesting information and announcements.

We look forward to our continuing productive association with HUPO.

MCP and HUPO

AN ERA OF NEW PARTNERSHIP

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This issue of MCP marks the progression to a new phase in the relationship between HUPO and MCP. Through the years, the support of MCP to HUPO has been mutually beneficial and, after having been the publisher for the book of abstracts for all the world congresses of HUPO (Versailles 2002, Montreal 2003, Beijing 2004, Munich 2005, Long Beach 2006), MCP now becomes the first publication to be endorsed as an official journal of HUPO.

MCP had also published a landmark editorial (*Mol. Cell. Proteomics* (2003) **2**, 1) back in 2003, entitled "HUPO est arrivé . . .," in which Drs. Bradshaw, Burlingame, and Celis identified some of the challenges and welcomed initiatives of HUPO following its first annual world congress.

Since that time, HUPO has set up its international headquarter in Montreal. The official inauguration, which took place in October 2005, drew world renowned scientists and

many other guests from the life sciences sector, business world, and international organization circles and was attended by several governmental representatives.

Currently, HUPO has an extensive membership worldwide and is coordinated through a number of committees, among them: an Initiatives Committee, which oversees current and new HUPO initiatives;

the HUPO Industrial Advisory Board, which serves as a bridge between the scientific and industrial communities;

a Nomination Committee that oversees all matters relating to the election of HUPO council members and directors;

a New Technology and Resources Committee that focuses on recent technological developments pertaining to proteomics;

an Education and Training Committee, which aims to offer opportunities for HUPO members and the proteomics community at large;

an Ethics Committee that ensures that all research conducted under the HUPO umbrella abides by certain protocols and codes of practice;

a Meetings Committee, which ascertains that all meetings of interest to the proteomics community get proper visibility;

a Publications Committee, which oversees the publication of all material stemming from research done under the auspices of HUPO;

a Membership Committee that provides the vital link between HUPO and its current and prospective members;

the HUPO Awards Committee, through which recognition for outstanding achievement is awarded;

the HUPO By-Law Committee, which is essential for the growth of such an organization.

With respect to the HUPO initiatives, the continuum can be seen between the efforts of MCP in standardizing the reporting of mass spectrometry data for protein characterization (Carr, S., Aebersold, R., Baldwin, M., Burlingame, A., Clauser, K., and Nesvizhskii, A. *Mol. Cell. Proteomics* (2004) **3**, 531–533 and Bradshaw, R. A., Burlingame, A., Carr, S., and Aebersold, R. *Mol. Cell. Proteomics* (2006) **5**, 787–788), and the HUPO Proteomics Standards Initiatives chaired by Henning Hermjakob and co-chaired by Ruedi Aebersold and Randall Julian; the mission of the initiatives is to define community standards for data representation in proteomics to facilitate data comparison, exchange, and verification (Taylor, C. F., Hermjakob, H., Julian, R. K., Garavelli, J. S., Aebersold, R., and Apweiler, R. (2006) *The Work of the Human Proteome Organisation's Proteomics Standards Initiative (HUPO PSI)*. *OMICS* **10**, 145–151).

Another highly publicized initiative is a two-fold effort

chaired by Matthias Uhlen, with co-chairs Mike Snyder and Peter Hudson, who are putting together the Human Antibody Initiative and Protein Atlas. Two peer-reviewed publications in MCP highlight the scientific advances made by these initiatives, and ultimately these efforts will define a compendium of antibodies which are monospecific to a representative protein characteristic for each human gene product: Antibody-based proteomics for human tissue profiling (in *Mol. Cell. Proteomics* (2005) **4**, 384–393) and A human protein atlas for normal and cancer tissues based on antibody proteomics (in *Mol. Cell. Proteomics* (2005) **4**, 1920–1932).

The HUPO pages in MCP will update the community on current efforts of HUPO and various scientific aspects of proteomics that HUPO is coordinating, including an education and training effort. The latter is meant to assure each HUPO member a guaranteed success in characterizing proteins via the HUPO Test Samples, itself under the umbrella of the New Resources and Technology Committee chaired by John Yates.

Moreover, the HUPO pages in MCP will be an invaluable vehicle for dissemination of information throughout the proteomics community.

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